

Inspection of Happy Days Nursery

Exmouth Community College, Gipsy Lane, Exmouth, Devon EX8 3AF

Inspection date: 18 June 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children have formed strong relationships with staff. Babies smile and reach out their arms to their key person and enjoy a warm embrace. Toddlers and older children are keen for staff to join in their play. They ask them for help in completing a jigsaw puzzle and to join them for a game of tennis in the garden. Staff know their children well and plan their curriculum to help them make good progress in their development. Staff encourage children to work together to form friendships and to develop their social skills. For instance, babies enjoy a group activity with staff where they listen to nursery rhymes and play alongside their peers. Toddlers help to make up the beds for those going for a nap later. They lay out the pillowcases and blankets on the beds for their friends. Older children help one another to tidy up and enjoy carrying out tasks for staff, such as unloading the dishwasher.

Children behave well and understand the nursery rules. Older children talk about how they need to be kind, take turns and respect one another. They copy staff's effective role modelling, such as remaining calm and patient until their lunch is served. Children always use their manners, saying 'please' and 'thank you' to staff. After lunchtime, staff encourage children to develop their independence skills. Children carry their plate and cutlery to the kitchen, carefully keeping these balanced.

The nursery supports all children, including those from disadvantaged backgrounds and with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Staff work with other professionals and attend training to ensure that they can fully support children's development. For instance, staff implement communication games to benefit children's vocabulary.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Parents are highly complimentary about the care that staff provide to their children. They comment how the nursery provides a home-from-home environment and how much their children enjoy attending. Staff find out information from parents about children's interests, health needs and routines from home. They follow these well to ensure consistency for children. Staff provide frequent updates to parents about their child's development and ways to support learning at home.
- Children enjoy listening to familiar stories. They remain focused and engaged throughout. Older children recall their past knowledge, talking about what happens next in the story. However, staff do not always adapt their teaching to help the older children build on what they already know to extend their learning further.

- Staff have a strong understanding of child protection. They know the signs and symptoms of when a child's welfare may be at risk. Staff are confident in the procedures of who to report their concerns to if needed. The play environment is safe and suitable for children. Staff carry out appropriate risk assessments prior to children arriving and supervise children well throughout the day to ensure their well-being.
- Children and staff have meaningful conversations. Staff repeat sounds and words for younger children, encouraging them to copy to increase their language skills. They talk to children about their experiences, supporting them to learn new words. Older children ask good questions to find out more information, such as whether octopus and jellyfish lay eggs. They recall past knowledge talking about the life cycle of a butterfly.
- Staff plan exciting trips for children, such as visits to the library, the park and the beach. Children learn how to stay safe in the sun and how to keep hydrated. Staff teach them about water safety and of the creatures that live in the sea. Children enjoy making sea creatures from different materials, although staff do not always enable children to express their own ideas. For example, children are told where to put the glue and how many tissue paper tentacles to attach to their 'jellyfish'.
- Staff implement simple games to encourage children's hand-eye coordination. They encourage babies to place small plastic balls into the holes of a cupcake baking tray and cheer when they achieve this. Babies beam with delight at their accomplishment. Toddlers confidently manipulate their fork at lunchtime, successfully feeding themselves. Staff show older children how to hold a racket and how to hit the ball over the net. Children develop good physical skills.
- The manager values her team. She ensures that staff's well-being is at the forefront and provides them with consistent support. Most staff have worked at the nursery for many years, and morale is high.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- adapt teaching to provide more challenge for older children, helping to build on what they already know and can do
- provide more opportunities for children to express their own thoughts and ideas, particularly during creative activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY501472
Local authority	Devon
Inspection number	10353818
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 4
Total number of places	30
Number of children on roll	41
Name of registered person	Exmouth Community College
Registered person unique reference number	RP911025
Telephone number	01395255734
Date of previous inspection	1 October 2018

Information about this early years setting

Happy Days Nursery re-registered in 2016 and is run by Exmouth Community College. The nursery employs nine members of childcare staff. Of whom, the manager holds a level 6 qualification, four members of staff hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3 and three members of staff hold a level 2 qualification. One member of staff is an apprentice and is working towards her level 2. The nursery opens from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, and from 8am to 4.30pm on Fridays, term-time only. The nursery provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Joanne Steward

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The manager joined the inspector on a learning walk and talked to the inspector about their curriculum and what they want their children to learn.
- Children told the inspector about their friends and what they like to do when they are at the nursery.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The manager and the inspector carried out a joint observation during a creative activity.
- Parents shared their views of the nursery with the inspector.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024